

Orchestra Handbook

2017-2018

Lincoln Park Academy Orchestras

Ms. Hopkins

Student Goals

- Develop a strong work ethic
- Develop a strategy for practice
- Become familiar with composers from diverse styles of music
- Learn to work as a team, and socialize with others to achieve a common goal
- Develop a fundamental sense of ear training
- Constructively analyze live performances
- Become accountable for actions
- Learn to express themselves through music and performances

Course Expectations

- Perform with correct posture and technique
- Create a beautiful tone on the instrument
- Demonstrate a rounded knowledge of Music Theory
- Demonstrate a rounded knowledge of Music History
- Perform in small and large ensembles
- Attend every rehearsal and required concert
- Spend appropriate time outside of class practicing

Classroom Expectations

- Students are to quickly and quietly unpack their instruments at the start of every class
- Students need to attend class with their instruments and required class supplies that include accessories, sheet music, orchestra folder, orchestra binder, method books, and a pencil
- Students are to be in seats tuning three minutes after the bell rings
- During the tuning process, there will be no talking

- There is NO food, drink, or gum allowed in the orchestra classroom
- Students need to check out and in to use the bathroom
- All students should keep their fingernails trimmed. Long fingernails and artificial nails are not acceptable as they interfere with progress on their instrument

Rehearsal Procedures

- Students will be on time for class
- Backpacks are to be left in the designated areas. Only the items needed for orchestra class should be on their stand
- Cellphones are to remain off and stored in backpacks
- Tuning will begin 3 minutes after the bell rings
- Rehearsal will continue until 5 minutes before the end of the period
- Students should follow classroom expectations while packing up

Supplies

- Orchestra Expressions Book I (Prelude Orchestra)
- Black, 3 ringed binder with at least 25 plastic protective sheets
- Spiral notebook for journal entries, and practice log records
- Orchestra folder for Concert and Symphony Orchestras
- Pencil
- Shoulder rest for violins and violas
- Rosin
- Rockstop for cellos/basses
- Spare set of strings
- Cleaning cloth
- Metronome/tuner with pickup clip

Orchestra Grading Policy

Concerts/Tests (80%)

Concerts 50%

Students are **required to attend every concert** as part of their test grade. If for some reason the student is unavailable, it is the student's responsibility to contact and inform Ms. Hopkins at least 2 weeks prior to the event with the exception of emergencies of course.

Quizzes 30%

Playing tests will be graded on 5 areas at 20 points each:

Posture/position, Tone, Intonation, Rhythm, Speed, and Style/Interpretation/Facility. Written tests will assess theory skills and/or music history knowledge.

Daily Work/Homework (20%)

Practice 10%

Practice time will be recorded using the orchestra notebook. Students are required to record their practice sessions EVERY WEEK. Weekly practice should add up to 70 minutes for Prelude and Allegro Orchestras a week, and 100 minutes for Concert, and Symphony Orchestras for the week. Students are encouraged to perform their practice at school under supervision in the mornings, or at home and a parent signature is required. Without the parent signature, students will receive 70% for the incomplete assignment until it is completed.

Practice log grading:

Prelude/Allegro Orchestras

70 minutes=100

69-60=99-90

59-50=89-80

49-40=79-70

39-30=69-60

29-20=59-50

19-0=49-0

Concert/Symphony Orchestras

100 minutes=100

99-90=99-90

89-80=89-80

79-70=79-70

69-60=69-60

59-50=59-50

49-0=49-0

Practice logs are to be handed in every Friday.

Class Work 10%

Various worksheets to supplement the student's music education will be assigned throughout the year. Each assignment accounts in your child's daily grade. Student are required to be participating with class at all times. This is a performance class and a student who refuses to play an instrument will be given alternate assignments that only count as 70% of the grade.

